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3/22/04

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FLEXOGRAPHIC PRINTING

PRESS WITH INTEGRAL DRYER

Applicant: CRAIG T. COMPTON, et al)

Serial No. 09/826,638)

Filed: April 5, 2001)

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

Approved
GTC

REPLY

In response to the Office Action October 24, 2003,
applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this
application.

As stated on page 1 of the application, a flexographic
printing press which includes a central impression (CI)) cylinder
or drum conventionally includes a plurality of color stations or
printing stations for printing the web on the CI drum with
different colors. The advantage of using a CI drum is that the
web is stable during the printing process, and stability of the
web allows for higher quality printing on a variety of
substances, including extensible films.

As stated on page 2 of the application, on modern
presses, the ink drying or curing process causes the greatest
amount of damage to the web. Between color dryers are
conventionally located between each color station. The purpose